

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are amended herein. Claims 1-16 remain pending in the application.

Allowable Claim

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 3, 9-12 and 14-16 recite allowable subject matter. Claims 3 and 14 are amended herein to be in independent form. Claims 3, 9-12 and 14-16 are now in condition for allowance.

35 USC 112 Second Paragraph Rejection of Claims 7 and 8

The Office Action rejected claims 7 and 8 as allegedly being indefinite under 35 USC 112.

Claims 7 and 8 have been reviewed and are amended where appropriate. It is respectfully submitted that claims 7 and 8 are now in full conformance with 35 USC 112. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 4-6 over Motohiro

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Motohiro et al., Japanese Patent Publication No. 10-293544 ("Motohiro"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a pair of frame members for wearing a head-mounted image display device on a head supported by frame supporting members, the pair of frame members having respective recesses accepting detachable earphones. Claims 4-6 recite, *inter alia*, a pair of frame members for wearing a head-mounted image display device (HMD) on a head supported by a pair of frame supporting members allowing the frame members to pivot freely and having respective recesses accepting detachable earphones.

Motohiro appears to disclose a device having left and right support frames turnably pivoted through hinge parts (Abstract). Earphones protrude from

the inner portion of the left and right support frames to allow a user to hear an audio signal (Motohiro, Fig. 1).

Motohiro discloses earphones that protrude from left and right support frames. However, the earphones simply dangle freely when not in use. Moto fails to disclose a pair of frame members having respective recesses accepting detachable earphones, as recited by claims 1 and 4-6.

An advantage of having frame members with respective recesses accepting detachable earphones is, e.g., eliminating tangle. Motohiro earphones have the potential to get tangled to each other and other objects when not in use. Providing recesses in the frame members provides a convenient storage location that eliminates the earphones from getting tangles with each other or other objects when not in use.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1 and 4-6 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 2 over Motohiro in view of Townsend

In the Office Action, claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Motohiro in view of Townsend et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,181,051 ("Townsend"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 2 recites, *inter alia*, at least one of a pair of frame member has ribs formed on an outer surface thereof extended over an effective range in a longitudinal direction of the frame member for guiding an earphone wire.

Motohiro appears to disclose a device provided having left and right support frames turnably pivoted through hinge parts (Abstract). Earphones protrude from the inner portion of the left and right support frames to allow a user to hear an audio signal (Motohiro, Fig. 1).

The Office Action relies on Townsend to allegedly make up for the deficiencies in Motohiro to arrive at the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Townsend appears to disclose a pair of specified metal glasses for displaying removable magnetic printed matter (Abstract). A plurality of projections allow mating with grooves disposed on a temple for securing the temple to a removable temple display (Townsend, col. 3, lines 26-39).

Motohiro's left and right support frames contain an earphone routed on the inside portion thereof. Motohiro fails to disclose or suggest frame members with ribs on an outer surface thereof, much less for guiding an earphone wire, as recited by claim 2.

Townsend's ribs on an outer portion of a frame member are used to assist in mounting removable magnetic printed matter. Townsend fails to disclose or suggest a frame member that has ribs for guiding an earphone wire, as recited by claim 2.

Neither Motohiro nor Townsend, either alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest at least one of a pair of frame member has ribs formed on an outer surface thereof extended over an effective range in a longitudinal direction of the frame member for guiding an earphone wire, as recited by claim 2.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claim 2 is patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 13 over Motohiro in view of Ronzani

In the Office Action, claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Motohiro in view of Ronzani et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,424,321 ("Ronzani"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 13 recites, *inter alia*, earphone holders formed in an outside distal recess portion of at least one of a pair of frame members.

Motohiro appears to disclose a device provided having left and right support frames turnably pivoted through hinge parts (Abstract). Earphones protrude from the inner portion of the left and right support frames to allow a user to hear an audio signal (Motohiro, Fig. 1).

The Office Action relies on Ronzani to allegedly make up for the deficiencies in Motohiro to arrive at the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Ronzani appears to disclose a compact, light weight head mounted display in which a pair of matrix display elements mounted in a housing (Abstract). Earphones attached to frame elements pivot down from a horizontally aligned position for use by a user (Ronzani, col. 3, lines 42-43). When stowed, the earphones are returned to a horizontally aligned position for storage in an earphone storage compartment (Ronzani, col. 3, lines 43-46).

Motohiro discloses earphones that protrude from left and right support frames. However, the earphones simply dangle freely when not in use. Motohiro fails to disclose or suggest a frame member having an outside recesses for an earphone, much less in a distal recess portion thereof, as recited by claim 13.

Ronzani discloses a recess to accept an earphone, however, the recess is on the inside portion of the frame member. Ronzani fails to disclose or suggest an earphone holder formed in an outside distal recess portion of at least one of a pair of frame members, as recited by claim 13.

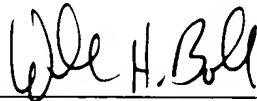
Neither Motohiro nor Ronzani, either alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest an earphone holder formed in an outside distal recess portion of at least one of a pair of frame members, as recited by claim 13.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claim 13 is patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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